

12. (Amended) A driving wheel element according to claim 6, including an electromagnetic brake that operates in the event of a power failure, the brake being fitted to said first bearing-forming piece, and comprising a disk fixed to a fluted end of the motor shaft.

16. (Amended) A hoisting winch, comprising:
a winch; and
an electric motor for rotating the winch, wherein the electric motor is a synchronous motor having a permanent-magnet rotor and a stator comprising teeth deprived of pole shoes and respective individual windings on said teeth.

Please add claim 31, as follows:

-- 31. A driving wheel element, comprising:
a wheel;
a synchronous electric motor for rotating the wheel, said electric motor comprising:
a stator comprising teeth deprived of pole shoes and respective individual windings on said teeth; and
a permanent magnet rotor;
a stepdown gearing coupling the motor to the wheel, said stepdown gearing comprising:
an epicyclic gear train comprising:
a planet carrier, said planet carrier being in a fixed position relative to the stator;
at least one planet wheel rotating on the planet carrier; and

a ring being in a fixed position relative to the wheel, said at least one planet wheel intermeshing with the rotor and the ring to transmit rotation of the rotor to the wheel.--

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-31 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 2 is canceled, claims 1, 12 and 16 are amended, and claim 31 is added. No new matter is involved.

Support for the amendment to claims 1 and 16 is found on page 6, line 7. The Amendment to claim 12 is made to correct an inadvertent typographical error of transcription, by changing "first bearing-forming teeth" which does not have proper antecedent basis in any claim from which it depends, to --first bearing-forming piece--, which finds proper antecedent basis in claim 6. Support for new claim 31 is found throughout the specification, including originally filed claims 1-26.

The attached Appendix includes a marked-up copy of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3-16 and 18-30 under 35 USC §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,691,584 to Toida et al. (hereinafter, "Toida"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites, inter alia, "a permanent magnetic-flux concentrating rotor, comprising pole pieces and magnets disposed between the pole pieces . . ." Toida does not disclose such a rotor.

Claim 1 further recites "a stator comprising teeth deprived of pole shoes." An inspection of Toida's disclosure, including Fig. 2 of Toida, reveals that Toida does not disclose this feature. Rather, Toida, in Fig. 2, discloses a stator with teeth that have pole shoes at the free end thereof.

These features are recited in claims 3-15 and 27-30, as well as in claim 1.